

The China Mail.

Established February, 1845.

VOL. XXXVIII. No. 5804.

第二月二年二十八百八千一英

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1882.

正月五日

PRICE, \$24 PER ANNUM.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

Notices of Firms.

THE CHINESE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

FROM this Date and during the Absence
of Mr. J. BRADLEE SMITH, Mr.
D. MC LAURIN will act as SECRETARY of
the Company.

WM. REINERS,
Chairman,
Board of Directors.

Hongkong, February 1, 1882.

NOTICE.

M. R. FREDERICK DEBLOIS BUSI
M. is Admitted a PARTNER in our
Firm from this date, and Mr. GEORGE
H. WHEELER is authorized to sign our
Name.

RUSSELL & Co.

China, 1st January, 1882.

NOTICE.

M. R. J. LAMKE has been Admitted a
PARTNER in my Firm, and the
Business will be carried on from this date,
under the Name of

STEIL & LAMKE.

R. STEIL.

Hongkong, February 1, 1882.

NOTICE.

THE INTEREST and RESPONSIBILITY of
Mr. W. KERFOOT HUGHES in our
Firm ceased on the 31st December last.
The BUSINESS will be carried on under
the same style, by Mr. WILLIAM LEGGE
and Mr. EDWARD JONES HUGHES.

HUGHES & LEGGE.

Hongkong, January 14, 1882.

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to Sell by Public Auction, on
THURSDAY,

the 23rd February, 1882, at 10 a.m., at
Messrs ARNOLD, KARRING & CO's Goldsmith,
No. 1, Wanchi, Marine Lot No. 24.—

(For Account of which it may Concur),
Selected from the late Five or the 12th Inst.
About 1,163 Picul BOILER CUTTINGS,
1,841 do. OLD HORSESHOES,
100 Tons SWEDISH BAR IRON,
460 Cans STEEL,
998 Bundles Small Round RODS,
1,188 RIFLES.

(All more or less damaged.)
TERMS of SALE.—Cash on delivery, and
immediate clearance to be effected.

G. R. LAMMERT,
Auctioneer.

Hongkong, February 21, 1882.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions from Major MURRAY,
to Sell by Public Auction, on

TUESDAY,

the 28th February, 1882, at 2 p.m., at his
Residence, "Idwah,"—
The whole of his

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, &c.,
comprising:—

CRETONE-COVERED DRAWING-ROOM
SUITE.

BLACKWOOD MARBLE-TOP TABLES, CHIM-
NEY GLASS, CHIMNEY CLOCK, HEARTH
RUGS, PICTURES, CASALIERS, and GAS
BRACKETS.

TEAKWOOD EXTENSION DINING TABLE,
SIDEROARD, WHATNOTS, DINING and DES-
SET SETS, TEA- and COFFEE SETS, in blue
CHINA, GLASS and PLATED WARE.

DOUBLE IRON BEDSTEADS, CHILD'S COTS,
WARDROBES, CHEST OF DRAWERS, CHEVAL
GLASS, TOILET TABLE and GLASS, and MAR-
BLE-TOP WARDROBE.

ONE WILSON & CO.'S HAND SEWING
MACHINE.

ONE TELESCOPE by NOLBY, with ASTRO-
NOMICAL EYE PIECE.

ONE DOUBLE-BARRELED BRECH-LOADING
12-Bore FOWLING PIECE, in LEATHER
CASE.

SHELLS, SHANGHAI POULTRY and FOWL
HOUSE, &c., &c.

Catalogues will be issued, and the whole
to be on view from 2 p.m. on Monday, the
27th instant.

TERMS of SALE.—As customary.

J. M. ARMSTRONG,
Auctioneer.

Hongkong, February 21, 1882.

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NOTICE.

M. ESSRS W. & J. LOCKETT'S Cele-
brated BRANDS, THIRTY-THREE Ex-
port PALE ALE, and FINDLATER'S ***
DUBLIN STOUT in Pints and Quarts.

FIVE OLD PORT, in Cases of 1 dozen.

Also,

SILLERY MOUSSEAU VIN DE
CHAMPAGNE, in Cases 2 dozen. Pints and 1
dozen. Quarts.

GEO. R. STEVENS & Co.

Hongkong, February 1, 1882.

FOR SALE—JUST RECEIVED.

BEST INDIAN SILVER JEWEL-
LERY, of various kinds.

INDIAN CASHMERE SHAWLS.

SMOKING CAPS.

RUMPOOREE CHUDERS; and
CASHMERE CLOTH, assorted, for
LADIES' DRESSES.

AT MODERATE PRICES.

N. M. KHAMISA,
8 and 10, Peel Street.

Hongkong, January 28, 1882.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned have been appointed
SOLE AGENTS for the sale of their
GOODS by Messrs KYNOCH & Co., of

WITTON, near BIRMINGHAM.

MEYER & Co.

Hongkong, August 13, 1881.

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Banks.

ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)

PAID-UP CAPITAL £1,500,000.

RATES OF INTEREST ALLOWED ON DE-
POSITS.

At 3 months' notice 3 per cent. per annum.
6 " 4 " "
12 " 5 " "

Current Accounts kept on Terms which
may be learnt on application.

OEO. O. SCOTT,
Manager.

Oriental Bank Corporation,
Hongkong, September 4, 1879.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING
CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL £5,000,000 Dollars.
RESERVE FUND 2,100,000 Dollars.

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—H. L. DALRYMPLE, Esq.
Deputy Chairman—H. D. C. FORBES, Esq.
Mr. HORITZ, Esq. WM. REINERS, Esq.
Hon. F. B. JOHNSON, F. D. SASSOON, Esq.
A. P. MC EWEN, Esq. M. E. SASSOON, Esq.
A. MUIVER, Esq. W. S. YOUNG, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER.

Hongkong, THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.
Manager.

SHANGHAI, EVEN CAMERON, Esq.

LONDON BANKERS, London and County
Bank.

HONGKONG.

INTEREST ALLOWED.

OUR Current Deposit Account at the rate
of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily
balance.

For Fixed Deposits—

For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum.

6 " 4 " "

12 " 5 " "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities,
and every description of Banking and
Exchange business transacted.

Drafts, granted on London, and the
chief Commercial places in Europe, India,
Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.

Offices of the Corporation,
No. 1, Queen's Road East,
Hongkong, February 15, 1882.

COMPTOIR DES COMPTES DE PARIS:

(Incorporated 7th & 18th March, 1848.)

RECOGNISED by the INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION of 30th April, 1862.

CAPITAL FULLY PAID-UP £3,200,000.
RESERVE FUND £300,000.

HEAD OFFICE—14, RUE BERGERE,
PARIS.

AGENCIES and BRANCHES at:

LONDON, BOURDON, SAN FRANCISCO,

MAISSELLES, BOMBAY, HONGKONG,

LYONS, CALCUTTA, HANKOW,

NANTES, SHANGHAI, FOOCHEW,

MELBOURNE, and SYDNEY.

LONDON BANKERS:

THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

THE UNION BANK OF LONDON.

MESSRS C. J. HAMBRO & SON.

The Hongkong Agency receives Fixed
Deposits on Terms to be ascertained on
application, grants Drafts and Credits on
all parts of the World, and transacts every
description of Banking Exchange Business.

F. COCHINARD,
Agent.

Hongkong, February 8, 1882.

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.

We have appointed Agents for the
MITSU BUSSAN KAISHA, of
Tokio, at this Port.

GEO. R. STEVENS & Co.

Hongkong, February 1, 1882.

NOTICE.

The Undersigned have been appointed
SOLE AGENTS for the sale of their
GOODS by Messrs KYNOCH & Co., of

WITTON, near BIRMINGHAM.

MEYER & Co.

Hongkong, August 13, 1881.

For Sale.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

HAVE now a NEW and LARGE STOCK in the following Departments, viz.:—
1. HOUSE HOLD STORES.

CHEESE & CRACKNELL, SCOTCH OAT CAKES, MACKENZIE'S ALBERT

PLUMS, DESSELT FRUIT in Syrup, NOYEAU and BRANDY; STITHON,

GORGONZOLA, PINE-APPLE and ALBERT CHEESE; NOU CASQUES and CONFECTIONERY.

BRANDIES—COGNACERS, EXSHAW, and HENNESSY.

WHISKIES—BROWN, BLEND, WHISKY, and ANGOSTURA, BOURBON, and OLD TOM.

LADES, KINAHAN'S LL, and L. C. & C. CO.'S SPECIAL BLEND, RED HEART, RUM, SQUARE

FACE and OLD TOM.

CLARETS—MILD, HAIF TALK, etc.

LAWSONS—LITER'S DIARIES, MEMO, and ACCOUNT BOOKS, OFFICE-SUNDRIES.

HUNTS PORT, L. C. & C. CO.'S "R" PORT, SPARKLING MOSSEL & HOG, CHATEAUS,

CURACAO, MARASCHINO, NOYEAU, and ANGOSTURA, BOURBON and ORANGE BITTERS,

STATIONERY—For Officers—PANTRY NOTE PAGES and CORRESPONDENCE CARDS,

LITTEN'S DIARIES, MEMO, and ACCOUNT

BOOKS, OFFICE-SUNDRIES.

FLOWERS and VEGETABLE SEEDS.

TOBACCO—Cooper's GOLDEN CLOUD, WHITE

For Sale.

MacEWEN, FRICKEL & CO.
HAVE RECEIVED FOR SALE.

CHRISTMAS STORES AND NEW AND SEASONABLE G.O.O.D.S.

EX FRENCH MAIL STEAMER. MUSCATEL RAISINS.

ASSORTED COSAQUES. CALLED & BOWSWU'S CONFECTIONERY. BUTTER SCOTCH.

HONEY SCOTCH.

ROSE TOFFEE.

LEMON TOFFEE.

Rose's LIME JUICE CORDIAL. PLUM PUDDINGS.

PATRAS CURRANTS.

VALENCIA RAISINS.

MACKINNON PEN.

LIVERMORE TENNIS BATS.

LAWN TENNIS BALLS.

LAWN TENNIS SHOES.

EX STEAMER "Glenfinlas."
STILTON CHEESE.
YORK HAMS.
CHRISTMAS CAKES.

TEA & OTHER DESSERT FRUITS.
ALMONDS AND RAISINS.
SMYRNA FIGS.

PIGNIC TONGUES.
ELBERTS.
COCONUTINA.
VAN HOUTEN'S COCOA.

LIEBIG & ETT'S COCOA.
FRENCH PLUMS.

HUNSTON & PALMER'S BISCUITS.
PATE DE POIR GRAS.

MINCEMEAT.

CHOCOLATE—MÉNIER.

SAUSAGES.

BRAUN.

ISIGNY BUTTER.

DANISH BUTTER.

BREAKFAST TONGUES.

ANCHOVIES.

ASPARAGUS.

SOUPS, &c.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

CHAMPAGNES—

HEDGESICK'S MONOPOLE & WHITE SEAL.

VEUVE CLICQUOT PONSARDIN.

JULES MUMM & Co., pints & quarts.

CLARÉTS—

CHATEAU LA ROSE, pints & quarts.

CHATEAU LAFITE.

IRE GRAVES.

BREAKFAST CLARET,

generally.

SHERRIES & PORT—

SACONE'S MANZANILLA & AMON-

TILLADO.

SACONE'S OLD INVALID PORT

(1848).

HUNT'S PORT.

BRANDY, WHISKY, LIQUEURS, &c.—

1, 2 & 3 STAR HENNESSY'S BRANDY.

BISQUIT DUTOUR & Co.'s BRANDY.

FINEST OLD BOURBON WHISKY.

KINAHAN'S LI WHISKY.

ROYAL GLENDEE WHISKY.

CHARTRUSE.

MARASCHINO.

CURACAO.

ANGOSTURA.

BOEKER'S AND ORANGE BUTTERS,

&c., &c., &c.

BASS'S ALE, bottled by CAMERON and SAWYERS, pints & quarts.

GUINNESS'S STOUT, bottled by E. & J. BURKE, pints & quarts.

PILSENER BEER, in quarts.

DRAUGHT ALE AND PORTER, by the Gallon.

ALE AND PORTER, in hogsheads.

EX AMERICAN MAIL.

FRESH ROLL BUTTER.

Eastern and California CHEESE.

Boneless CODFISH.

Russian CAVIARE.

Eagle Brand Condensed MILK.

PEACH AND APPLE BUTTER.

Pickled OX-TONGUES.

Family PIG-PORK in legs and pieces.

Dragon MACKEELD in 5 lb cans.

Beau Ideal SALMON in 5 lb cans.

Cutting's Dessert FRUITS in 2½ lb cans.

Assorted Canned VEGETABLES.

Potted SAUSAGE and Sausage MEAT.

Stuffed PEPPERS.

Assorted PICKLES.

MINCEMEAT.

COMB HONEY in Original Frames.

Richardson & Robbin's Celebrated Potted MEATS.

Richardson & Robbin's Curried OYSTERS.

"Lunch TONGUE."

McCarthy's Sugar LEMONADE.

Clam CHOWDER.

Smoked SALMON.

Green TURTLE in 2½ lb cans.

&c., &c., &c.

YACHT & PICNIC SUPPLIES.

CALIFORNIA RACKER COMPANY'S BISCUITS in 5 lb tins, and loose.

Alphabetical BISCUITS.

Fancy Sweet Mixed BISCUITS.

Ginger CAKES.

Soda BISCUITS.

Oyster BISCUITS.

Cracked WHEAT.

OATMEAL.

HOMINY.

CORNMEAL.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR.

RYE MEAL.

SPECIALLY SELECTED CIGARS.

Fine New Season's CUMSHAW TEA, in 5 and 10 catty Boxes.

BREAKFAST CONGOU @ 25 cents p. lb.

SHIPCHANDLERY of every Description.

RIGGING and SAIL-MAKING promptly executed.

GEO. R. STEVENS & Co.

Hongkong, January 25, 1882.

Intimations.

WINDSOR HOUSE,
NOS. 16 AND 18, BUND, YOKOHAMA.

THE above well-furnished HOTEL commands a fine view of the Harbour and Shipping, and the building is surrounded by a large Veranda, which makes this resort the Coolest Hotel in the East.

Charges—From \$25 to \$4 per day. Porter to land and ship Baggage.

SMITH, SWIFT & Co.

Yokohama, Japan, Sept. 1881.

THE "FAR EAST."

THE ISSUES OF 1878 WANTED.

Apply at this OFFICE.

Hongkong, October 4, 1880.

THE "SULPHOLINE LOTION."—An EX-

TERNAL Means of CURING SKIN DISEASES.

There is scarcely any eruption but will yield to "Sulpholine" in a few days, and commences to fade away, even if it seems past cure. Ordinary pimples, redness, blisters, seur, roughness, vanish as if by magic; whilst old, enduring skin disorders, which have plagued the sufferers for years, however deeply rooted, they may be, "Sulpholine" will successfully attack them. It destroys the anaesthesia which cause these unsightly, irritable, painful affections, and always produces a clear, healthy, natural condition of the skin.

"Sulpholine" Lotion is sold by most Chemists.

Bottles, 2s. 9d.

Hongkong, February 16, 1882.

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PRUSSIAN NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY, OF STETTIN.

THE Undersigned having been appointed

Agents for the above Company, are prepared to Grant Insurance against FIRE at Current Rates.

MEYER & Co.

Hongkong, May 10, 1881.

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CHINESE INSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED).

NOTICE.

POLICIES GRANTED at current rates

on MARINE RISKS to all parts of the World.

In accordance with the Company's Articles of Association, Two-thirds of the Profits are distributed annually to Contributors, whether Shareholders or not, in proportion to the net amount of Premium contributed by each, the remaining third being carried to Reserve Fund.

J. BRADLEE SMITH,

Secretary.

Hongkong, April 6, 1881.

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NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Undersigned, Agents of the above Company, are authorized to insure against FIRE at Current Rates.

GILMAN & Co.

Hongkong, January 1, 1882.

NOTICE.

QUEEN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Undersigned are prepared to accept Risks on First Class Goods down to 5 per cent. net premium per annum.

NORTON & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, May 19, 1881.

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MANCHESTER FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF MANCHESTER AND LONDON.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

Capital of the Company £1,000,000 Sterling, of which is paid up £100,000

Reserve Fund upwards of £120,000

Annual Income £250,000

The Undersigned have been appointed Agents for the above Company at Hongkong, Canton, Foochow, Shanghai, and Hankow, and are prepared to grant Insurances at current rates.

been occasioned by the single span cut-stone culvert over one of the gullies—more, properly, a water-cut-giving way. The disaster appears to have arisen from a slip in the super-soil, which undermined the northern abutment, and, in its fall, scarped some small portion of the side of the hill. However small the accident may be, there the *ruin still stands*—a standing monument of the *apathy* of Sir John Pope Hennessy in doubt that does not concern himself! Those of our readers who may have taken the trouble to peruse the Governor's "Annual Statement" with the attention it demands, could not refrain from noticing the loud protestations of his willingness to expend; and the only draw-back to the good intention thus expressed towards our roads, streets, and bridges" was attributed to *another cause*—to wit, the fault of the Department of the Public Services immediately concerned with their maintenance. If this is not taking undue advantage of one's position, we do not know what is. Comment is unnecessary on the lowest of all subterfuges—the shifting of responsibility to the shoulders of the innocent, and attaching blame to subordinates who have no other alternative but to "grin and bear it." But to revert to the *Bridge*. We imagine that before its restoration is undertaken a *special Committee* will be deputed to report on the advisability of the measure, or otherwise. Perhaps—it has been suggested to us—our worthy Chief is bent upon developing a taste for aesthetics among the Celestials, and has referred the design to the Royal Institute of British Architects for an expression of opinion?

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE NEXT AMERICAN MAIL. bringing San Francisco dates up to the 26th ult., may be expected here on or about the 27th inst.

THE GUTLAFF-NAGASAKI CABLE failed yesterday evening. The Co.'s repairing steamer is now on the way to the break.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL will move to-morrow that Mr. Herbert Mainwaring Bailey, Barrister-at-law, be admitted to practice in the Supreme Court.

THE AGENTS (Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co.) inform that the E. & A. S. S. Co., *asstz. Monnaur*, left Port Darwin yesterday for Hongkong, and will probably arrive here on 2d March.

THE AMERICAN GUN-BOAT PALS and all the other men-of-war in harbour were to-day gaily dressed with flags in honour of the anniversary of the 150th birthday of George Washington.

A CORRESPONDENT informs us that Mr. A. R. Colquhoun, whom we referred to yesterday as being *en route* to the Yunnan Border, accompanied Major Street in the Embassy to Siam from British Burmah in the early part of 1879.

AMONG THE LISTS of new patents we observe one that might be capable of useful application locally in connection with our coming tramway—viz., a "novel method of cleaning tram-rails, removing extraneous matter therefrom, and apparatus therefor."

WE UNDERSTAND that all Summary Court cases in which solicitors appear for either side are to be adjourned from Friday until Tuesday next, and it is also intended to hear undefended cases only, as the Court will adjourn at twelve o'clock, on account of the Races.

IT IS A MATTER of some importance to this Colony, as well as to Macao, that the University of Bombay, which confers degrees in all the Faculties, except Divinity, and is like the University of London, cosmopolitan in its scope, permits the use of Portuguese as the second or optional language for its examinations.

RETURN OF VISITORS TO THE CITY HALL MUSEUM for the week ending Feb. 19th:—

	European.	Chinese.
Monday,	42	527
Tuesday,	37	404
Wednesday,	56	393
Thursday,	23	336
Friday,	18	208
Saturday,	None	None
Sunday,	Sunday	Sunday
Total,	181	1,058
Grand total, 2,129.		

THE ADVENT of the New Year in and about India was marked by one of the greatest convulsions of nature ever experienced within memory in that part of the world. Subterranean rumbling and the shocks of earthquakes could not have extended over a smaller space, we estimate, than 400,000 square miles. The culmination of this phenomenon was a volcanic eruption near Akyah, in Burma. The Seismological Society of Japan, a gentleman informs us, may be favored with a paper on the subject, which is of somewhat more than ordinary interest, if not anticipated, or should nothing intervene.

TO-DAY (Ash-Wednesday), the Roman Catholic Church throughout the world celebrates one of the most impressive ceremonies of that denomination by strewing ashes on the heads of the clergy and of those persons assembled in the church before the Mass begins. The ashes are first consecrated on the altar, and on applying them to the heads of those present the Minister on each occasion repeats the words, "Memento quod cimis es, et in cinere reverteris," i.e., "Remember that thou art dust, and to dust must return."

This ceremony is said to have been introduced by Gregory the Great, but afterwards sanctioned by Pope Celestine III, in 1191; and it has ever since been an annual ceremony observed on the first day of Lent.

We know that Governor Hennessy is still amongst us; also, that Mr. John Pitman, whose friendship for His Excellency has assumed so many phases, is still here; and that the body known as the Tung-wai Directors (past and present) is yet intact, and as willing as ever to do honour, when called upon, to any apparently great man. It is whispered that influences are being brought to bear upon the "leading Chinese"—we do not say by whom—to rally round the departing Governor. What particular form the "rally" will take will probably depend upon circumstances; but judging from the manner in which these little matters have been "arranged" heretofore, there is little doubt but that something novel will be heard of soon in this connection. Under present circumstances, when the Chinese impressions regarding Governor Hennessy have suffered so marked a change, consequent upon a comparison of his performances with his promises, the negotiations connected with any demonstration in favour of departing Vice-royalty will be of the most delicate nature. They are reported, however, to be in the most competent hands, and a result of some kind, effected somehow or other, may be safely looked for before long. We hear that the "umbrella" idea has been abandoned, and therefore look for something less locally significant, though probably more imposing in its nature.

HIS EXCELLENCY'S MINUTE. There is a slight inaccuracy or misconception in the latter part of the protest (about documents being exhibited by my direction), but nevertheless, let it be entered full in the minutes:

Clerk of Councils, dated the 7th instant, and confirmed by you in the Legislative Council of that day, by which decision Your Excellency ruled that a motion of mine, of my intention to move which, at that Council, I had given due notice, and the terms of which I shall presently state in *extenso*, was irregular and out of order.

The motion to which I allude, was as follows: "That His Excellency will be pleased to direct the Acting Colonial Secretary to lay upon the table copies of letters addressed by me to the Acting Colonial Secretary dated 2nd December; with enclosures, and 7th and 16th December; and of the Acting Colonial Secretary's replies addressed respectively 5th and 13th December, also that His Excellency will be pleased to lay upon the table copies of a letter addressed by Mr. T. C. Hayllar to the Secretary of State for the Colonies dated on or about 27th July 1881, of a covering despatch from His Excellency the Governor about the same date, and of a letter from Mr. T. C. Hayllar to the Secretary of State, comprising a series of documents which have been exhibited to members of Council by His Excellency's directions." I have the honour to be, YOUR MOST OBEDIENT SERVANT,

F. BULKELEY JOHNSON.

14 Feb. '82.

His Excellency then said that the first letter to which he would call the attention of the Council would be:

The Hon. F. B. Johnson said he would not again be out of order, and that he had no wish to transgress the rules, but would ask to be allowed on a question of privilege.

His Excellency asked the hon. member what the question of privilege was.

The Hon. F. B. Johnson offered to decide the question of privilege if His Excellency would allow him.

His Excellency pointed out to that hon. member the inconveniences of the course he was taking, and said that the Council was governed very much by the practice of the House of Commons, which was that if a member objected, as the hon. member evidently did, to the reading of the President's speech, he gave notice in some shape or another of his intention. A question of privilege was a question which arose at once in regard to something that occurred at the moment.

In this case of the hon. member's no notice had been given either to His Excellency or to the Clerk of Councils.

The Hon. F. B. Johnson asked permission to be allowed to say a few words in reply.

His Excellency said no discussion could take place whatever on the subject, as the protest was ordered to be entered full upon the minutes of the meeting, and no further reference could be made at this meeting.

The Hon. F. B. Johnson said he had been debarred from giving due notice from the fact that this meeting had been called in an informal manner at twenty-four hours' notice, and if the meeting had been called according to the Standing Orders he would have done so, but under these circumstances he had been unable to give notice in the usual form, but thought he might be allowed to read the extracts.

His Excellency: No, and he assured the hon. member that it would be completely taken for obtaining the godown coolies.

As yet, therefore, there is little or no explanation to offer as to how the goods have been abstracted, or what system has been adopted to evade detection. All that is known at present is this, that considerable consignments of quicksilver have been stored for some time back in the godowns referred to, and that upon examination it has been discovered that a large number of the flasks have been removed, while many of the flasks remaining have been emptied of their contents.

The robbery must have been carried on in a systematic manner, and have extended over a period of several months; but from the fact that empty flasks are left, it may be presumed that their presence was used as a blind when the chances of discovery became troublesome. A warrant has been issued for his apprehension, while steps have also been taken for obtaining the godown coolies.

The Hon. F. B. Johnson said he wished to point out that the matter referred to above is referred to a former occasion.

His Excellency: The hon. member could enter another protest if he liked.

THE JURY LIST.

His Excellency said the first matter for the consideration of the Council was the Jury list. It was usual, he said, to deal with this with closed doors, and he would ask that the members if the usual custom was to be followed, namely, that the gentlemen of the press withdraw.

Ho, the speaker, was entirely in the hon. members' hands, but he saw no necessity to exclude the gentlemen of the press, and he would put the question to the members.

His Excellency: Under these circumstances it could not be dealt with as a matter of privilege; that was a clear ruling in all assemblies of this kind, and more than that, no motion could be made again similar to that which had been ruled out of order.

The Hon. F. B. Johnson asked if His Excellency would allow his ruling to appear upon the minutes.

His Excellency: The hon. member could enter another protest if he liked.

THE JURY LIST.

His Excellency said the first matter for the consideration of the Council was the Jury list. It was usual, he said, to deal with this with closed doors, and he would ask that the members if the usual custom was to be followed, namely, that the gentlemen of the press withdraw.

The Reporters then withdrew; and after a lapse of some twenty minutes, public business was resumed.

THE NATURALIZATION ORDINANCES.

The bills for the naturalization were then read and passed, with the addition of a memorandum, which had been provided on the suggestion of the Colonial Treasurer at last meeting.

The ordinances for the naturalisation of Lai Shun Ying, who was stated in the memorandum to be 26 years of age, and had been in Swatow, was delayed at the suggestion of the Colonial Treasurer, who stated that the subject was still residing in Swatow, and that the passing of the ordinance be deferred till his arrival in the Colony.

An ordinance granting naturalisation to Chang Yeng Che, aged 39, born in Amoy, and at present a merchant in Hongkong, was passed; as also one for Ng Li Bing, aged 47, born in Amoy, merchant, now residing in Hongkong; also one for Yan Ching Hing, 30 years of age, born in Amoy, merchant, at present residing in Hongkong; also one for Chan Mun Wing, 41 years of age, born in Amoy, merchant, at present residing in Hongkong.

Superintendent McEuen said he had full control over all the bodies of men engaged as firemen, and directed the movements of the engines and other matters. Part of his duties was to order the men out of the danger, when he observed them in such a position. He was not present at the fire, and in his absence the senior officer performed his duties. He considered himself responsible for the protection of the men under his charge at a fire.

THE VEHICLES AMENDMENT ORDINANCE.

His Excellency then said that the next Ordinance was out to amend Ordinance 6 of 1863, which was an Ordinance to regulate Police conveyances and carts, and he moved the second reading of the Bill.

This was agreed to, and the Council then went into Committee, when after some discussion on several of the clauses of the Bill was passed and ordered to be numbered Ordinance 6 of 1862.

Assistant Superintendent J. A. Carvalho said he was present at the fire at the fire station, and directed the movements of the engines and other matters. Part of his duties was to order the men out of the danger, when he observed them in such a position. He was not present at the fire, and in his absence the senior officer performed his duties. He considered himself responsible for the protection of the men under his charge at a fire.

His Excellency then said that he had the honour to announce that the protest, if the hon. member wished, would now be read.

The Hon. Mr. Johnson said he had no special desire for the protest to be read, so long as it was inserted in the minutes.

His Excellency said that it would be entered among the proceedings, but thought it should be read to the Council.

The Clerk then read the following—

THE HON. F. B. JOHNSON TO HIS EXCELLENCY

AND THE CLERK OF COUNCILS

Hongkong, 13th February, 1882.

I do hereby protest in writing against the decision of Your Excellency, intimated by

you in the letter addressed to me by the

without either alteration or addition and passed, being classified Ordinance 7 of 1862.

THE OPIUM ORDINANCE.

His Excellency said the next Ordinance was one that he would not trouble them with to-day, that was the Excess Opium Ordinance. He would take the opportunity of saying to-day, that he summoned the meeting of Council rather suddenly, as the intention he had had of calling a meeting for the end of the week had been abandoned on account of the races taking place during the next few days, and instead, as the jury list had to be proved before the first of March. He might state that an honourable member can put forward any notice he may choose to make, and not only that, but on an occasion like the present, he, His Excellency, would be only too glad, too happy to answer any questions or anything the hon. member might have to bring up. And he would always be very happy to answer any questions that might be brought up by any hon. member, whether the meeting of Council had been called at 24 hours' notice or in the usual way of two days.

No further remarks are being made by any of the hon. members, the meeting then adjourned sine die.

MEETING OF THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the *China Fire Insurance Company* was held this afternoon (22nd) in their offices in Queen's Road, when the following gentlemen were present:—The Hon. P. Ryrie, Chairman; Messrs. H. Hippius, A. McIver, H. L. Dalrymple, H. D. C. Forbes, and W. H. F. Darby (directors); and Messrs. G. Sharp, V. C. da Rocha, A. Coxon, M. A. Carvalho, E. Sharp, Pollock, and A. G. Stokes, Acting Secretary.

The Secretary having read the notice convening the meeting.

The Chairman said that they had had the report and accounts before them for several days, and had not think there was any necessity to read them. He had very few remarks to make with reference to the report, and thought the gentleman present would all agree with him that it was very satisfactory one. The reduction of rates which took place in May last in consequence of the action of the European offices, had—he was happy to say, not affected the Company so much as at one time might have been expected. In fact as far as Hongkong was concerned, the diminution of premium of 1881, as compared with 1880, only amounted to \$100. The falling off, which was not a serious one, was in the agencies. They hoped that, in the course of time, they would make up the deficiency and perhaps even more.

As the gentlemen present were aware, there had been several fires during the past month, and it was his, the speaker's, satisfactory duty to tell them that this office had suffered slightly; indeed, they were exceptions to what in respect.

In making his report he was now making, he thought, his duty to express, on behalf of the shareholders, their thanks to the various police brigades in the Colony (Apiapeh) whose exertions had been very great indeed and no doubt to their efforts they owed their immunity from serious loss.

He hoped that their efficiency would be kept up to its present standard, and indeed when they had a really good supply of water, he thought very little was left to be desired indeed in the way of means of extinguishing fires. He would now propose that the reports and accounts as furnished to them by the directors be passed.

The proposition was seconded by Mr. McIver, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Hopping proposed the re-election of the retiring directors.

Messrs. McIver and H. L. Dalrymple, Mr. Sharp seconded the resolution, which was agreed to.

Mr. McIver proposed the re-election of the retiring auditors, Messrs. George Scott and J. H. Cox, and this being seconded by the Chairman, was carried.

The meeting was then closed.

INQUESTS.

An inquest was opened this afternoon, at the Government Civil Hospital, before the Coroner (H. E. Wodehouse Esq.) and the following gentlemen as jurors:—Messrs. J. S. Judah, D. R. Billin, and F. Leslie, regarding the death of William Lapsey, whose body was found in the water opposite Ship Street yesterday afternoon. Dr. Marquis stated that the body must have been some time in the water before it was discovered. There was only a slight conclusion about the left eyelid.

The inquest was adjourned till Tuesday next at the Queen's Road Fire Station.

Sergeant Rae stated in addition to his previous evidence that there was no fire on the ground floor, except a few lighted rattans that had fallen through. He had only been stationed on the ground floor about two minutes when the floor came down, both of them being at that time in full blaze.

Sergeant Hennessy said that there was no fire on the ground floor, except a few lighted rattans which were quickly extinguished.

The ordinaries for the naturalisation of Lai Shun Ying, who was stated in the memorandum to be 26 years of age, and had been in Swatow, was delayed at the suggestion of the Colonial Treasurer, who stated that the subject was still residing in Swatow, and that the passing of the ordinance be deferred till his arrival in the Colony.

C. G. S. Goodwin said so far as he remembered he had been working a hose on the ground floor a considerable distance in, when a coolie came out and informed that the first floor was in flames. He then retreated, but shortly after made another entrance, though not so far this second time. He had

